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THE
PLOTTER

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S
USERS GROUP
NEWS LETTER

VOLUME 4 ** NUMBER 6

JUNE 1986

EDITED BY: DICK WAGNER
CHAIRMAN: SID WYNCOOP
V/CHAIRMAN: DICK WAGNER
SECRETARY: JACK ARMSTRONG
TREASURER: ROD GOWAN
PR OFFICER: BOB EVANS
LIBRARIAN: ROD GOWAN

MEETING

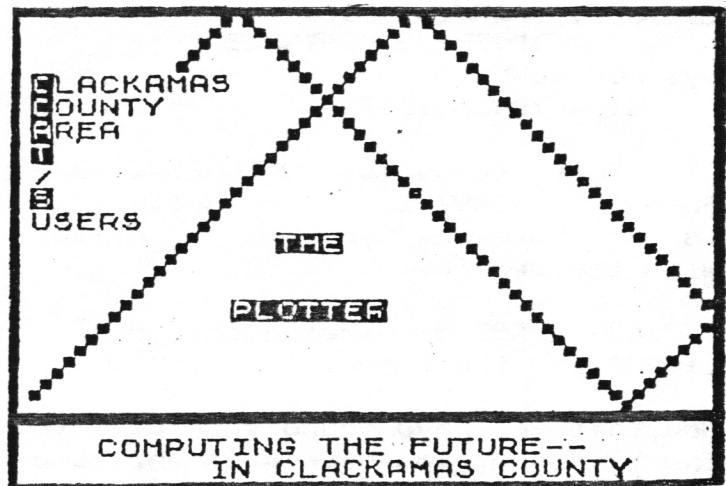
The JUNE meeting will be:

on: FRI., JUNE 13, 1986
at: 7:30 P. M.
in: COMMUNITY ROOM
 FAR WEST FEDERAL S & L
 OREGON CITY SHOPPING CENTER

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WHAT YOU WILL
FIND IN THIS
ISSUE-

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Chairmans'
Corner

We had a real fine discussion on the subject of modeming again. Missed a lot of you though. A list of modem users was handed out last meeting but, you don't have it if you were not there!

We had a demonstration of Aerco's RPM which is equivalent to CPM 2.2. Our little ole door stops have made the big leagues now!

In case you haven't heard, there was an awful good turnout of Timex-Sinclair enthusiasts at the show in Cincinnati. Perhaps there will be one closer to home.

We still need a new librarian. Rod has resigned and deserves a hand for all the years of hard work. Who is willing to help make your club be the club you want? This is your opportunity!

See you at the next meeting!



COMMENTS ON COMPUUSERVE

by: ROD GOWEN
CIS# 70436,1542

CIS: That stands for COMPUSERVE INFORMATION SERVICE. The definition is for those of you not familiar with the service.

BASICS- PART 3- Finding the DATA LIBRARY on the Forum.

Now that you have found your way to the TS Forum, you have seen the menu of Functions. One of those Functions is DATA LIBRARY. All you need do to get to the Library is choose option number 4 from the FUNCTION MENU. At this time you will again choose the DATA LIBRARY that you want. Again you will press number 4.

Now the menu will ask you to choose whether you want to see a DEScription of the library, BROwse the files, see a DIRectory of the files, UPLOAD a file, DOWNload a file, CHAnge libraries or return to FUNCTION MENU. Or, you can choose to read the INSTRUCTIONS for the DATA LIBRARY.

If you choose to BROwse the files, you will be offered the opportunity to READ the file, DOWNload the file or RETURN to FUNCTION MENU after each file header is displayed.

I think that you will enjoy a BROwse through this section. There are a lot of files to look at and, as you get to know the system a little better, you may want to try your luck at DOWNloading a couple of them yourself. For now though, you may just want to open your buffer and capture the titles as you BROwse the LIBRARY so that you can print out a list after you are off the line.

NEXT TIME-I will explain some details of how to DOWNload both a BASIC program and a document file from the DATA LIBRARY.

Hope to see you here-----

(P.S.-How about some comment on this column, GOOD or BAD, in the form of letters to the newsletter or editor. We need to know how we are doing.)

SECRETARY'S

SECRETS

by Jack Armstrong

Chairman Syd Wyncoop called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. with the usual reminder of returning library items promptly.

The Treasurer's report was given by Rod and he made mention of two new members garnered through his catalog and noted that new member, Dr. John Engle is the second dentist in our group along with Dr. Abramson. The paid membership now stands at 36.

When Old Business was called for, Modems again became the topic of the night and an on-line remote transmission will be a subject next month. Rod reported on the Computer Fest that Tim Woods attended as a vendor. It was a successful venture with over 370 paid attendees. Among the 35 vendors and agents were TS Connection and Aerco. There will be a New York show in Oct. and in San Francisco around New Year's. There was discussion about a Portland Fest that would attract an audience from Seattle to San Francisco. A report on the Fest got a mention in the Wall St. Journal. Bob Evans reported on his PR efforts and the mailings.

Dick Wagner stated that he would like to get articles for publication in the Plotter and would very much like to receive ones relating to the 1000. He also gave a report on the Computer Show at the Coliseum. The Milwaukee Commodore club was represented and gave out handouts. The Portland IBM club was also there and had a Q/A session.

Mention was made of RMG Enterprises being discussed in a national magazine. The book inventory of Dilithium Press is now in the hands of Tim Woods. He will probably be making an announcement concerning this in the near future. PATS will meet in the Sellwood Comm. Center on May 20. That will be a Tuesday evening-check with Syd or Mike Carver for the exact time-probably 7 or 7:30. After more discussion about modems, the QL and a proposed WP Demo later in the year, the meeting was adjourned.

MTERM II/LOADER IV

Uploading/Downloading a Program

Most of this information was compiled through a conversation with Syd Wyncoop. He is patient and informative. The following is the procedure to send a "numbered line" program or "numbered line/REM'd" program via 2050 Modem with MTERM II and Loader IV loaded into the 2068.

From the Main Menu of Loader IV, use option 3: Load Buffer. Press 3.

You are then asked for the name of the file. Type in the name such as: patch/ENTER.

The file will then be loaded (Your Loader program should have already been configured to make this load from either Cassette or the A & J Microdrive; Disk?).

You are then asked for the Carriage Return. Options are NONE, After each line or After each paragraph. Choose option 1:NONE/ENTER.

When the load is complete, a message will appear at the bottom: Load Complete, Press any Key. Pressing a key should bring you back to the menu where you can use the dialing feature to contact the other modem.

Hit ENTER to go the MTERM main menu.

Open the buffer of the receiving modem by using ENTER/ENTER to get to the terminal mode and send a Control R then Caps/Shift 8 to get the menu at the bottom and choose M/ENTER.

Then Select S for the System Menu.

Then set the word size to 8. Set Parity to Even by pressing P. Set Stop Bits to 1 by pressing Y. Turn off CarrgRetn by pressing F. Turn off Line Feed By pressing E. Toggle Duplex/Half by pressing D.

Press ENTER to return to Main Menu.

Use D to go to Data Buffer Menu.

Press X to toggle conversion to REM or NONE, depending on whether you have your program set up with REM's or not.

If your buffer is not closed, close it by pressing B.

Then send the buffer by pressing T. XMIT will show ON. Press ENTER/ENTER and you go to terminal mode and the transmission will be initiated to the other modem. As it is sent it will be printed on your screen. When it is completed you must use Control T to close the receiver's buffer. At this point, if everything has gone well, you can then keyboard a message, use the phone by voice or hang up by pressing Cap/Shift ENTER, then type H/ ENTER to hang up.

All of the preceding is to send from one 2068/2050 to another. There may be different protocols to send to other brands of computers.

As more information is gathered, it will be published in the PLOTTER. If you have any changes/alts/corrections or new material to add, please get a copy to Jack Armstrong or any other officer of the club.

EL-CHEAPO 80 COLUMN PRINTER STAND

by: ROD GOWEN
(Based on an idea by Vince Lyon)

Do you own an 80 column printer? Have you looked at the prices on the desktop printer stands out there? I did. I could not see paying \$40 for a piece of molded plastic. I decided to build one out of wood to save myself a bunch of \$\$\$. Upon mentioning the idea to Vince Lyon, he made the suggestion for doing it the way I am going to describe here. I think that this one can be done by even the most inexperienced of woodworkers. At a cost of less than \$5!!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

1 5/8" x 12" x 4ft. particle board shelf.
6 flathead wood screws 1 1/4" x #8
white glue
wood filler (if desired)
stain or paint (if desired)

TOOLS NEEDED:

Tape measure
Carpenters' square
Saw-power or hand
Screwdriver
Drill with countersink bit

Got that all rounded up? Good! Now we can get to work.

STEP 1:-Measure, mark & cut legs

The first thing to do is to measure and mark the shelf at desired cut points. You will need 2 (two) pieces, for uprights or legs, of the same size. I found from trial and error that 5" is about the best height for the paper to have enough room to feed properly. Using the tape measure, mark off 5" from one end of the shelf. Using the square, make the mark across the shelf. After cutting this piece off, repeat the same step to get the second leg.

STEP 2:-Measure, mark & cut shelf

Now you will need to take your tape measure and measure your printer width. After you know how wide it is, you know how long to make the shelf or supporting surface of your stand. Mine was 15", but printers do vary so make sure that you measure.

STEP 3:-Assembly

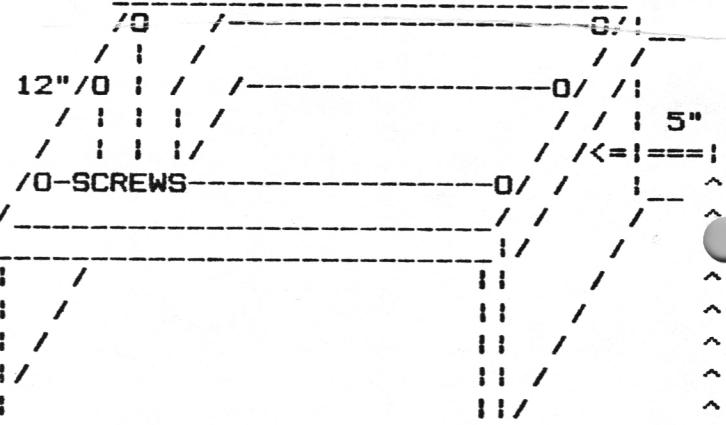
Now you are ready to assemble the unit. I found that by sanding all of the edges (except where the pieces join) at this time, I was able to save a little time later. I also find it easier to sand flat pieces than to sand an assembly. Set the pieces together as shown in the drawing. With the countersinking bit in the drill, carefully drill 3 holes in each end of the shelf. If

you are going to cover the screw heads with filler, then drill about 1/8th inch below the surface. Lift off the shelf and apply a bead of white glue to the top edge of the legs, set the shelf back on and insert the 6 screws and tighten them down. If you are covering the screws with filler, now is the time to apply it. Set the assembly aside to dry.

STEP 4:-Finishing

When the unit is dry, you can sand down the filled areas and the entire surface. If you desire, now is the time to stain or paint the assembly. You will find that this unit is very sturdy and durable.

!<--LENGTH OF PRINTER---->!



GLUE AT JOINTS

BITS & BYTES

by: ROD GOWEN

Heard any news about the Sinclair/Timex line of products lately? Have you received any information in the mail from other users, user groups, or vendors that may be of interest to our readers? If so, why not share it with us? We need all of the help that we can get. Please send any info that you might have to: Rod Gowen, C/O CCAT/S, 1419 1/2 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045, or phone in at: 503/655-7484, 10 AM- 10 PM weekdays. Now, on with what we have for this month.

MIDWEST T/S COMPUTER FEST-is now history. And what history it is. It was, without a doubt, the largest event of its kind for us Sinclair buffs ever held in this country. I am sorry to say that I was not able to attend in person but I have had reports from several people who were there. All reports say the same thing: IT WAS GREAT!!! There were over 360 tickets sold (not counting the vendors)! There were seminars, displays, demonstrations of new and existing products. There were over 30 vendors represented as well as at least 5 publications. One of our own group, TIM WOODS, of TDM, was there and will undoubtedly have a nice report in his magazine. You may even have it by the time you read this. There is talk of more shows in the future, maybe even one on the West coast! I hope so! I'll be there, won't you?

TINYBOARD BBS SOFTWARE-written by a couple from the Cincinnati users group, RANDY AND LUCY GORDON, as was noted last month, was made public domain and is getting a lot of use around the country. Right in our area, RMG ENTERPRISES has a version of it online every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evening from 10 PM till 9 AM the following morning. Check in sometime and see what it looks like. There is a BIG DEAL! on the BBS that is changed each Tuesday. It is usually a good bargain. You cannot, however, take advantage of the savings unless you log on in person. If you call and say you saw it on the BBS, your name will be checked with the logon record which sends each callers' name to the printer when you log on. If there is no match, then the special price is not valid! The number to call is: 503/655-7484.

CCAT/S BBS- has been put on the back burner, so to speak, at least until we get some sort of idea as to what kind of usership we would have. It may not warrant the outlay of a lot of money to get one up and running if the people are not going to use it. The current usership will be gauged by how many people use the BBS rooms that are currently available to us. Those are: N.S.I.C. in Portland, at 771-6132 and the RMG BBS noted above.

A+ COMPUTER RESPONSE-our new QL distributor, was at the FEST last month, and as noted, gave away a complete QL system to some lucky person who attended. We do not know who that was, but I am sure that we will probably find out in TDM. They have since reaffirmed their support for the QL and related products. There are a total of 13 AUTHORIZED DEALERS in North America. They plan to see that more third party producers are represented in this country as well as try to get more homegrown products introduced. If any of you are budding programmers or have a good idea for a peripheral, make sure that your local dealer knows about it. Maybe it can be promoted!

ZEBRA SYSTEMS- had a problem with the chips for the new Z-MU1 cartridge emulator board and had to temporarily discontinue the product. They now say that they MAY have it out in a few weeks. They also say that the Z-STICK that they advertised, is not yet available and will be out as soon as they get pcbs for them made. Looks like a great product, watch for it!

Looks like I'm out of room again for this month. Be sure and tune in next month for more news.....

** NOTICE **

CCAT/S has an opening for a Librarian. Duties are minimal-storage of books, magazines, newsletters and tapes. Some record keeping of inventory, checkouts and returns. Usually the Librarian brings some material to meetings. A volunteer has a big plus- chance to first review books, periodicals and newsletters. It is necessary to index incoming newsletters so PRO/FILE and at least a microdrive is required. VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

THE QL CORNER

By Vince Lyon

One of the new commands available to the QL user is SElect. At first glance, it may not appear to be much of an addition, but, as the program below demonstrates, there is more to the command than meets the eye.

First, remember that from within a SElect, it is possible to revalue any variable, call any defined procedure or function or any task you may want to assign. It can work from keyboard input, or the result of computations within a program (IF X=1 THEN).

In the sample, it simply changes the p string and calls a procedure (the same procedure for all), but it could just as easily call a separate procedure for each SElect, or two or more procedures. An inventive basic programmer can find a multitude of possibilities here for fast & easy procedure calls.

A short side note - you may notice that this months program contains no compound commands. It seems that the editor was driven almost to drink in attempting to type all the listings into a WP program so that they would fit the 36 column format, resulting in an occasional error or two. To make his job easier, and perhaps yours too, I am trying to keep all lines under 36 characters. Programs will be direct listed to the printer to eliminate any future errors. Any program that requires longer lines will be listed in condensed print so be ready to read some fine print in the future.

Again, if you have any comments or questions, we would like to hear from you. That's how we can tell if you like or read the QL Corner.....

```
10 MODE 4
12 WINDOW #1,450,145,35,0
14 PAPER #1,5
16 BORDER #1,1,2
18 CSIZE #1,2,0
```

```
20 WINDOW #0,450,40,35,150
22 CSIZE #0,1,0
24 BORDER #0,5,7
26 CLS:CLS #0
28 mainmenu
30 INPUT #0\\\" SELECT A NUMBER: ";fi$
32 errtrap
34 fi=fi$
36 findit
38 STOP
40 DEFine PROCedure mainmenu
42 CLS:CLS #0
44 PRINT\\\\\" SELECT TEST\"\\\
46 RESTORE 54
48 FOR count=1 TO 6
50 READ m$:PRINT TO 5,m$\
52 NEXT count
54 DATA "1","2","3","4","5","6"
56 END DEFine
58 DEFine PROCedure findit
60 SElect ON fi
62 =1:p$="one":printit
64 =2:p$="two":printit
66 =3:p$="three":printit
68 =4:p$="four":printit
70 =5:p$="five":printit
72 =6:p$="six":printit
74 END DEFine
76 DEFine PROCedure errtrap
78 IF CODE (fi$)<49 THEN redo
80 IF CODE (fi$)>54 THEN redo
82 END DEFine
84 DEFine PROCedure redo
86 GO TO 28
88 END DEFine
90 DEFine PROCedure printit
92 CLS:CLS #0
94 PRINT\\\\\\ TO 4,"This is "&p$
96 PRINT #0\\\",,"PRESS ANY KEY ";
98 PAUSE
100 CLS:CLS #0:redo
```

THE JUNE MEETING— WHAT TO LOOK FOR!

These subjects are being actively pursued by members and some will be demonstrated at the June meeting.

Demonstration of modem communication between computers.

New products for Sinclair computers.

The 9 inch green monitor will be in use again.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Wouldn't it be nice to have a perfect utility for operating a large printer? I ran into a problem with my OLIGER printer interface that had me stumped for a time. This was simply that I wanted to LLIST a program to my Olivetti printer in 32 column format. The manual plainly says that LPRINT and LLIST will print at full printer width. I just wanted to add a listing after an article with the listing being a program in fact. I had the program set up to be able to run, not just to make a print of it. Also, this eliminates copying errors and it also gives me the key words and proper spaces.

A try at loading the program into MSCRIPT didn't work because it was not text even tho I wanted it to be text. While there are probably other solutions, maybe using A & J interface, I tried OS 64 as it is easy to implement and does work with AERCO and OLIGER type IF. This simply required setting the line length to 32 with a POKE. By LOADING the program into the computer with the OS 64 cartridge in place, the POKE and RANDOMIZE USER call set the line length and the printer gave me a listing with 32 column format.

If there is a moral it must be that one shouldn't give up but TRY different ideas. It gives you a good feeling of accomplishment to get the problem solved. I know that others have had this kind of a problem because I have received articles with listings printed out to full printer width even tho the articles were reduced to 36 columns

*****JUNE MEETING CONT'D*****

EXTENDED BASIC with the 1000. Adds 22 additional commands. No POKEs, PEEKs, USR. Includes READ/DATA/RESTORE. Use multiple commands per line, merges with BASIC programs. Very fast. Makes a new computer out of the 1000. Has to be tried to make a believer out of you so there will be hands-on for anyone interested. Our group still caters to the 1000 computer members.

For this fall we plan to put together a program to demonstrate various word processor programs/equipment being used by various members. If you wish to participate keep it in mind that you will need to bring equipment. We want to include the ZX 81, 1000, 1500, 2068, AND QL.

MODEM RESISTORS

DICK WAGNER

Readers who have purchased the T/S 2050 modems as an incomplete assembly may experience a dead unit if resistors are incorrectly installed. This list of resistors was obtained from a circuit diagram and may not be absolutely current. For instance, R13 is labeled 12 ohms but all of the units I have inspected use 2.42 ohms. I also found several boards that had this resistor at R23 by error (should be 4.7 k ohms). One R 3 is incorrectly labeled on the board- the diode location is CR 3.

R 1	--	10 K
R 2	--	10 K
R 3	--	1 K
R 4	--	47 K
R 5	--	100 K
R 6	--	100 K
R 7	--	47 K
R 9	--	10 K
R10	--	560 ohms
R11	--	10 K
R12	--	220 K
R13	--	2.42 ohms
R14	--	1 M
R15	--	1 K
R16	--	10 K
R17	--	10 K
R18	--	1 M
R19	--	33 K
R20	--	150 K
R21	--	15 K
R22	--	4.7 K
R23	--	4.7 K
R24	--	3 K
R26	--	12 ohms
R27	--	12 ohms
R28	--	100 ohms
R29	--	4.7 K
R30	--	330 ohms
R31	--	4.7 K
R32	--	220 K
R33	--	47 K
R34	--	680 K
R35	--	47 K
R36	--	10 K



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